Blunders Explained.

BYACT ACCOUNT OF THE MOVEMENTS.

A Visit with a Flag of Truce.

WHAT WAS DISCOVERED THEREBY.

Present Feeling of our Men.

THE STORY BY ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

Account from an Officer Engaged.

THE DEATH OF MAJ. WINTHROP.

LETTER FROM A MARTYR.

Letters from Zouaves.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

From our Special Correspondent.

OLD POINT COMFORT, June 13, 1861. Judging from the remarks of Northern journals reseived here this morning, the movement of Sunday night upon the Bethels is generally misunderstood. The forces at both Big and Little Bethel, as they were at daylight Saturday morning, were accurately counted by a spy from the fortress, and even the names of the more prominent officers were duly reported here, with a full knowledge of the state of affairs, and that there was a battery at Amity Creek, of what strength had not been ascertained, and which was so ingeniously concea'ed as to defy the scrutiny of the scouts, and most of the guns of which must have been mounted during Saturday and Sunday. Gen. Butler ordered an attack, not upon Big Bethel, but upon the little church this side of the creek. The two expeditions-from Newport News and from Hampton-were to march at hours named, and were to join at a fixed time designated in the plan of attack, which is now on file at Gen. Butler's office, in the handwriting of Theodore Winthrop-the watchword "Boston" was announced, and Townsend's men were ordered to wear a white cloth upon the arm, so that they might be known.

These orders could not be misunderstood, for each com mender was furnished with a copy of the plan of attack, which was moreover explained by and to each by one of the staff. The main object of the enterprise was to surprise Little Bethel. In pursuance of the plan, Mr. Wm. O. Fiske, whose bearing throughout the whole was worthy of a veteran, had proceeded on the road with a company of scouts, and followed Washburn's detachment from Newport News, which had proceeded on the way, the march being timed, under the orders, with an accuracy which could not be exceeded. Bendix had been stationed with his reserves

have been the duty of the commanders to return; at any rate, it was this which was the chief cause of the sters of the day. But there was another cause. A spy who had been 15 years a soldier in the United tates Army, and who was detected in his nefarious basiness by a female servant of Gen. Butler's house icated the fact of the contemplated march and attack, to the enemy, on Sunday night. The delay caused by the blunder at the fork of the roads, gave time to complete preparations, and to bring, as is now ascertained, reënforcements from Yorktown. This traitor, happily, is now in the guardhouse of the fortress.

The nest at Little Bethel having been destroyed by Duryee, the service upon which the expeditin was ordered was completed. It was then a question of expediency to be decided by Gen. Peirce and his Colonels whether or not to proceed further. He did proceed; how, and with what success, need not be written here. These minute details, embracing the recital of some things which perhaps it were better not to put into print, furnish a complete vindication of Major-General Butler from the charge of a lack of care or ability in planning the expedition. The flerceness of the assault on him by a certain New-York journal perhaps justifies, though, in fact, it may not call for this recital of facts, which, with those whose good opinion is worth having, will, I am confident, prove sufficient.

Yesterday, Capt. H. E. Davies, jr., of Co. C, in Col. Duryee's regiment, made a visit with a flag of truce to Yorktown. Tuesday evening he received orders from Gen. Butler to proceed with a flag of truce to the scene of the recent conflict, to look after the dead, wounded and missing. Lieut. C. H. Seaman, of Co. C, and Assistant-Surgeon Martin, were detailed to accompany him. Starting early Wednesday morning, they proceeded as far as Newmarket Bridge, which they found partially destroyed, and which they repaired so as to pass over. On arriving within a mile of Great Bethel, they were stopped by a guard commanded by Capt. Early, of the Virginia forces. On learning the object of the visit, Capt. Davies was informed that Col. Magruder, commander of the Virginia forces, had left and gone back to Yorktown, and that it would be necessury to see him there. Although he was informed tha a number of our men were in that vicinity wounded, Capt. D. was not permitted to see them, but was re quired to proceed at once to Yorktown, twenty miles further on. An escort of four men and a sergeant was furnished, and the party immediately set out. They were not permitted to take the usual route, but after proceeding along the Yorktown road for a mile they struck off into the woods by a by-path, which, at frequent in-tervals, was defended by barricades of fallen trees and other contrivances. Pursuing this path three or four miles they took the main road again and proceeded to

About half a mile outside of the fortifications at Yorktown, they were halted at a cavalry camp, where they remained till word was sent to Col. Magruder of their arrival. This officer soon came to where they Wore, and received Capt. Davies and his party with diteness and consideration. Col. Magruder, on hearng that Capt. D. purposed an exchange of prisoners, and that be desired an opportunity to see the wounded, mid that he would reply by letter to Gen. Butler, but

refused to allow Capt. D. to visit either the wounded THE WAR FOR THE UNION. or prisoners, saying that as they were within his lines, information might be obtained prejudicial to his intended operations.

Capt. Davies remained nearly four hours at the quarters of Col. Hill's Regiment, where he and his party were hospitably entertained. Leaving the camp at 4 p m., under an escort of Capt. Phillips and two men, they, were conducted by a different route through the woods to the vicinity of Great Bethel, and from thence by the regular route to Newmarket Bridge, which was the limit of the enemy's outposts. Capt. Davies and his party then proceeded to Hampton alone,

and arrived in camp near midnight. The opinion of Capt. Davies, in which those who accompanied him coincide, is, that the force of the enemy on the day of the battle at Great Bethel, was at least three regiments; that they were reënforced during the day; that their battery was constructed with skill and deliberation, and that the number of guns in position was at least ten, and that probably it was greater. All information concerning the killed and wounded on their side was studiously withheld from Capt. Davies.

Capt. D. was informed that those of our men who had fallen into the hands of the enemy, wounded and dead, had been properly cared for; that the wounded two, as he understood, were receiving proper attention, and that the dead, of whom there were two, had been properly buried. Among these was Major Winthrop, who fell gallantly charging on the enemy. Captain D. was given the spurs, cap, and note-book of the deceased, which, with the watch of the deceased, will be forwarded by Gen. Butler to his friends. Capt. Davies very properly abstains from giving any opinion of the strength of the enemy at Yorktown, based on what he saw and heard, as that might be deemed an abuse of the flag of truce.

Nothing certain is known whether the Rebels have evacuated or are strengthening themselves at Great Bethel. The better opinion is that they have fled. It is pretty well ascertained, however, that they have constructed batteries at different points on the Yorktown read.

To-day a flag of truce came in from Col. Magruder in response to the one sent out yesterday. The bearer was balted at the outer pickets at Hampton, and communicated with Gen. Butler by letter, who replied in the same way.

George Lougee, of Bradford, Vt., died in the hospital to-day. His complaint was measles, terminating in quick consumption. The wounded are doing well, and the list of invalids is small in proportion to the total number of men excamped here.

A man is now in custody, against whom the evidence is strong, suspected of conveying evidence to the enemy, so that they were informed of the starting of the late expedition, and of the approach of our troops. Should the evidence be sufficient to establish his guilt, his punishment will not be light. It is not improbable that the enemy has been kept fully informed of everything going on here by spies and traitors.

The two men belonging to Col. Carr's regiment, convicted of stealing, and outrageously abusing citizens, were to-day drummed out of their regiment, and through the brigade, with halters round their necks and through the origane, which their backs. Captain Cassidy's Company, to which they belonged, refused to parade with the regiment on the occasion, and cheered the culprits when they passed. It is likely to prove a serious matter for those engaged in the transaction, for the interest of the service requires that they should be promptly and severely dealt with; nor is Gen. Butler the man to allow such an offense to go without proper

punishment. I have been through the camps to-day, and I can bear witness to the fact that our men are in the best of spirits, and eager to wipe out the unpleasant narrative of the affair at Great Bethel. The experience has done them good. They have had a taste of conflict. they have gained confidence in themselves, and only succeeded. Bendix had been stationed with his reserves at the fork of the roads and at the precise time and from the direction at and from which they should have appeared, Col. Townsend's regiment marched up to the fork, to within 100 yards, and halted. Lieutenant George H. Butler, the General's nephew and A. D. C. who was in advance with the artillery, distinctly saw Bendix's reserve, three hundred, flanked out on the road, and the rest visible through the foliage, and heard the order given "Load, men; load, quick!"

The jerson giving the order wore a straw hat and blue ribbon.

This, with the giving of the order, without housing the battle-cry "Boston," convinced Butler that the fire was from the Rebels. General Peirce took the same view, and immediately dashed to the rear to give an order to fall back. In much less time than it takes to read this paragraph, the firing was commenced by Bendix, and the result is well known. Of course, all hopes of a surprise were dashed by this criminal blunder, and it would seem to dashed by this criminal blunder, and it would seem to favor an opposite policy. There is abundant evisance of the creating and only where that a leader, in whom they have confidence, will lead, and undertake any thing that such a man will say they ought to undertake. This is the real feeling, and it denotes a big peneral morale which they are upon the result is an advance with the promises everything when the conditions shall be realized. Gen. Butler does not doubt the courage or starding our artiferist seng out, "there they are upon the feeling, and it denotes a big peneral morale which after was advanced by their Allow our artificial sengue and an artificial proved to be Gen. Pierce, Col. Townsend what appeared to be a trooped howwizers, all home will study which they are discipled to the cross of the force, our artificial sengue, and where the tast was restricted with the prese

dence, however, going to establish his inefficiency, his lack of espacity to command on the field, and his general unmilitary conduct. I will not say that others did not exhibit, to a certain extent, some of these qualities also: at the same time there were Captains and Lieu tenents in the action, who by deeds of bravery proved themselves to be a thousand times his superior, both in personal courage and that genius inseparable to success in the field. He certainly must retire. And a New-York Brigadier should be sent to command the New-York regiments, of which there are eight now here. The placing of an unknown and unrecognized Massachusestts Brigadier over them did not a little to demoralize the camp, and no one thing would do more to promote its morale as the presence of a New-York Brigadier of recognized capacity. The subject is of sufficient importance to entitle it to immediate atten-

THE BETHEL SKIRMISH. Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

CAMP HAMILTON, FORTRESS MONROE, VA., ? June 11, 1861.

On Sunday, the 9th inst, four regiments, two from this point (the 3d New-York Volunteers, Col. Town send, and the 5th, Col. Duryee), and two from New port News, were ordered by Brigadier-General Pierce to march toward a place called Great Bethel, about eleven miles from Hampton village, where he had learned that a considerable force of the enemy was fortified, and to make a reconnoisance of their position and force. About eleven o'clock on Sunday night the two regiments from this camp were summoned by the long roll of the drum to form in line of battle, which they did with celerity and promptness. After being furnished with one day's rations, the regiment marched to Hampton River, which they crossed in boats furnished by the officers of the Naval Brigade. Forming on the opposite side of the river, they proceeded toward Great Bethel, which is a distance of about eleven miles.

Col. Duryee, by reason of being in front, and first crossing the river, got several miles the start of Col. Townsend's Regiment. In the proximity of New-Market Bridge, a regiment of German Riflemen, and a portion of a Massachusetts Regiment, had stationed themselves to form a junction with the two regiments before mentioned. As Col. Townsend's Regiment was approaching this point, at route step with arms at will, entirely unsuspicious of any attack from any quarter, a heavy volley of cannon-shot and musketry was poured in upon his flank. The attack being from an unknown quarter, and the commanding officers of the men being entirely surprised, the regiment broke to the right and left of the road for a few minutes, but the right and left of the road for a few minutes, but were soon reformed in regular line. After smartly returning the fire toward the point from whence the volleys seemed to issue, under order of Brigadier-General Pierce, Col. Townsend marched his men, by the flank, back a distance of about fifty rods, where he formed a line of battle, ready to meet the foe. After waiting a short time for the supposed enemy, it was discovered that they had been fired into by friends, the German Riffemen, who had mistaken them for Secessionists.

Hiftemen, who had mistaken them for Secessionists.

The fire was terribly severe, and had not a kind Providence aimed their shots too high for effective work, that whole regiment of brave men would nearly all have perished. As it was two were mortally wounded and about 14 slightly wounded. After explanation, &c.,

these forces which, a moment before had been contending as apparent foes, marched on together to reenforce Col. Duryee, who had by this time got largely in advance of the other regiments. But before reaching the point where the skirmishers who had been sent ahead informed the commanding officer the enemy were fortified, Col. Duryee came to a halt and waited for reenforcements to come up. When within about 100 rods of the Rebels' battery, the Brigadier-General ordered Col. Townsend and Col. Duryee to form in line of battle, one regiment on either side of the main road. Col. Townsend formed on the left, and both regiments there remained, anxiously awaking fighting orders. Soon orders were given to Col. Duryee to march by the flank out into the road up toward the enemy's battery. As they approached a heavy volley of rifle and cannon shot was poured in upon them, but without very disastrous effect, whereupon they tarned to the right, and marched off into a dense wood, when the firing ceased. Then came the command for Col. Townsend to advance, which he did in line of battle.

After coming to a narrow lane, about thirty rods from the fortification of the enemy, he halted his command and detailed two companies on the right wing to skirmish among the bushes. This task they bravely undertook, but when about in the middle of the field which intervened between the regiment and the enemy, they were fired upon by a rapid succession of cannon and rmall shot, which, if it had been skillfully aimed, must have made many a brave volunteer bire the dust. Col. Townsend, seeing the danger of those companies, gave the command for them to retire. But either because they did not hear, or if they did, would not obey, they continued gradually to creep toward the enemy's camp. The Colonel could endure this no longer, and putting squits to his splendid charger, gailoged fearlessly in front of the skirmishers, right out in open sight of these forces which, a moment before had been con

they continued gradually to creep toward the enemy's camp. The Colonel could endure this no longer, and putting spurs to his splendid charger, galloped fearlessly in front of the skirmishers, right out in open sight of the enemy's gaus, and in range of their rifles and rifled cannon. In a few moments he turned to the main part of the regiment, and gave the command to forward. Instantly the command was obeyed, and away the regiment started, over fences and ditches, till it came upon a line with the skirmishers, when the command "halt" was given.

Now, the force of the enemy, which had been stationed in other portions of the fortification, came flying to the point where they could fire upon the Third Regiment, and sent a constant stream of cannon balls and grape-shot around, above, and upon us.

Third Regiment, and sent a constant stream of camera balls and grape-shot around, above, and upon us. There the regiment stood for at least twenty-five minutes in that scorehing fire, giving and receiving volleys of leaden death. But thinking that the forces were too strongly fortified and too great in numbers to admit of the battery being successfully stormed, the Brigadier-Generalcrdered Col. Townsend to retreat, just admit of the battery being successinity storated, the Brigadier-General credered Col. Townsend to retreat, just as he was about to charge bayonets upon the enemy. In compliance with the order, he retired to the point from which he sent out the skirmishers before mentioned. The numbers of the rebels were variously estimated at from three to five thousand strong, snugly encased in a stronghold, while the Federal forces were eut in open sight, and not so strong by a good deal. There were also from twenty-five to thirty field-pieces ready to burst upon them. The conduct of Col. Townsend was much admired. There he sat, cool and calm as another Washington, a beautiful mark for the bullet. But, thank heaven, though the bullets whizzed about his head like hail, he was spared to serve his country longer. In this conflict some ten or twelve of Col. Townsend's regiment were wounded, including several officers, but only one I believe mortally. From Col. Duryce's force several were killed by chance cannonshot, and many others seriously wounded from the ride-shot upon them from the traitors. Although the Federal troops were not successful in taking the rebel battery, yet they accomplished what they started for, and returned to camp.

I understand Gen. Butler intends ordering another

hattery, yet they accomplished and returned to camp.

I understand Gen. Butler intends ordering another attack soon, as well as one upon Sewall's Point, across the River. I will be happy to communicate to you any further steps of importance which may be taken.

J. S. C.

THE ACTION AT BIG BETHEL. THE UNFORTUNATE NIGHT ENCOUNTER.

STATEMENT OF ADJUTANT SCHAFFNER OF THE STEE-BEN RIFLES, 7TH REGIMENT N. T. VOLUNTEERS.

Adjutant Schaffner of the 7th Regiment New-York Volunteers, is now in town, having received a week's leave of absence, rendered necessary by an attack of brain fever. He says: I was in the action of Great Bethel, and also in the encounter with Col. Townsend's Regiment. We had been ordered out at 11 p. m. for a night foray, and had instructions to form a junction with several other regiments at the forks of a road leading to Bethel, carrying with us one six-pounder, under Lieut. Grebble of the U. S. Artillery. We gained a certain point by an unfrequented road, drag-

sacks, canteens, etc., and one man ying or a second whom we found to be a Zouave of Duryce's. He had a white badge on his left arm, and a little farther up, in a farm house, we found 10 wounded, all wearing white badges. Some one rode forward and found that Col. Townsend's regiment all were these white badges, and their uniform so much resembled that of the Secendary of the second sec sionists, that, had we met them with these unexplained sionists, that, had we met them win these enex pathers badges, we should have fired upon them in broad daylight. Gen. Fierce we found was not in uniform at all, but had a military cap and civilian's coat marked with shoulder-straps. I am sure our men received no orders to wear white badges upon the arm, and no notice that

to wear white badges upon the arm, and no notice that others would do so.

This unfortunate encounter delayed our attack upon Great Bethel several hours. The action commenced at 10 o'clock a. m., and lasted until nearly 2 p. m. There was no concert of action among the troops, and we (the 7th) were completely at the mercy of the enemy, who commenced firing at us between 11 and 12 o'clock, and continued it for two hours, while we were unable to return it effectively. Col. Bendix told me he had found Gen. Pierce, of whom he had demanded orders. The General asked whether he could take the battery at the point of the bayonet, and Col. Bendix replied The General asked whether he could have the battery at the point of the bayonet, and Col. Bendix replied that he could if the had sufficient force. Gen. Pierce promised that he should be backed by a whole regi-ment. The 10th Company of our regiment, under Capt. Wradislaw, an old Hungarian Colonel, was soon after ordered to advance, and they went down from the woods and crossed a little creek near the intrench-ments, when Col. Bendix, finding that he was not supments, when Col. Bendux, inding that he was not sup-ported, ordered them to retire again. Officers gener-ally express themselves of the opinion that had there been any order the intrenchment would have been car-ried in a few hours. The enemy pursued some stragried in a few hours. The enemy pursued some strag-glers, and fired into our ambulance wagons, wounding, in one case, a man already shot. Col. Carr's Chaplain told me that Col. Carr asked Gen. Pierce, during the action, what he had better do, to which Gen. Pierce replied that he had better use his own judgment. Under orders of Col. Bendix, I was more than half an hour, while the fire continued, in search of Gen. Pierce or Col. Durvee—who was Senior Colonel.

an hour, while the fire continued, in search of Gen. Pierce, or Col. Duryce—who was Senior Colonel. I found Duryce, and brought Col. Bendix to him. In reply to the question, "Who is in command?" Col. Duryce told Col. Bendix that "he did not know, but supposed Gen. Pierce." "Where is Gen. Pierce Pir "I do not know." Col. Bendix then said, "Colonel, hadn't yon better take command and give orders?" To which Col. Duryce replied, "I guess we better each act on our own hook." On marching toward Great Bethel, at least a mile and a half before getting there, I saw Gen. Pierce ride into a yard and dismount, and I did not see him again until on the retreat. There were no orders to anybody for a long time until the order came to retreat.

arder came to retreat.

At first the rebels fired over us, the first fire going a At hirst the redels hired over us, the first the going a foot or more above my head. After a while their range was good, and then too high again. My regiment was within 60 rods, in a piece of woods. We maintained our ground—stood still and took the fire. At the moment of an explosion, the men would fall down or stand behind trees.

I made a reconnoisance with Major Winthrop about 12 o'clock in the day, and can testify to his bravery and daving. He was very much exhangled by the standard of the control of the contro 12 o'clock in the day, and can testify to his biravery and daring. He was very much exhausted, having wanted for sleep, food, and water, and the day had turned out very hot. We stuck our heads out of some underbrush, and instantly there was a perfect shower of balls rained upon us, which compelled us to withdraw a few paces. Major Winthrop laid himself behind a tree, saying if he could only sleep for five minutes he would be all right. He remarked, as he did this, that he was going to see the inside of that intrenchment hefore he went back to the fortress—his did this, that he was going to see the inside of that in-trenchment before he went back to the fortress—his manner being that of cool, ordinary conversation. He continued self-possessed and cool throughout the whole engagement, up to the time when he received his death-wound, which happened by the side of Lieut. Herringen, Company E, who remained with him, and cared for him until life had fied. He was shot in the side.

A day after the battle, Col. Taylor of the New-York

A day after the battle, Col. Taylor of the New-York
4th, Scott Life Goard, sent out a reconnoitering party,
which brought in what they supposed to be a Secessionist, but which proved to be a Capt. Smith, an old
friend of Col. Taylor. I heard him say that the rebels
had buried the dead we were unable to brinz with us.
The whole number of dead was only 10, as carefully
reckoned up. It was supposed Major Winthrop was
among them, as he was not brought either to Fort
Monroe or Newport News.

DEATH OF LIEUT. GREELE.
Lieut. Greble was very cool and calm. He would
outwardly be judged to be effeminate, being mild in
temperament, very pleasant, and gentlemanly. During
the hottest of the fire he was quite in front, and distinguished himself for his nonchalance and devotion.

EXPLOIT OF A DOCTOR AND A SERGEANT.

We (the 7th) brought off our own dead, except one
private, who was at once buried in the woods. We
had no surgeon with us in either of our encounters. On
the first fire opening in the dark between us and Col.
Townsend's regiment, our assistant doctor (the first
surgeon being detained at the Fort) accompanied by a
sergeant, a fine-formed man who left a lucrative position in this city, ran away, not stopping until they
reached the Fort, five nailes distant, where the one reported himself in search of bandages, and the other
gave the important news that the regiment had been
completely out to pieces, that this officer and that officer, including Adjutant Schaffner, had been killed.
At a subsequent meeting of officers, it was resolved
that both the men should resign, or hear of complaints
preferred against them. that both the men should resign, or hear of complaint preferred against them.

THE BATTLE AT BETHEL. A Letter from one of the Zouares—Communicated for The N. Y.

CAMP BUTLER, June 11, 1861.

STH REG'T. N. Y. V., COL. DURYEE, Com't. DEAR FATHER: * I suppose that by this time you have heard of our engagement. I will describe it from first to last. We were on parade Sunday evening, as usual. After being dismissed we were called together again, and each man was given 20 cartridges in addition to what he might already have; all was bustle and activity; we knew we were going somewhere, but as to the direction we were in the dark. The taps were sounded as usual, and we were ordered to our tents. A few minutes after, a man might be seen going to each tent, whispering the words, "At halfpast 10 every man will be called; he will immediately, and without noise or light, arise, equip himself, and fall into line in front of the tents; he will be supplied with one day's rations; he will also tie his turban (which is white) around his left arm twice, as a distinguishing mark." Several stout men were detailed to assist the surgeon. Now we were sure that something in earnest was to be done. About an hour before the time I was outside my tent, when I saw a bedy of men going by. They made so little noise that it seemed to me mysterious where they had come from. I learnt that they were two of our companies, under command of Captains Kileatrick and Bartlett, who were to go shead as skirmishers. I now understood that we were to surprise a camp about 15 miles from us. It seems that a negro who had worked at the place helping to build batteries, ran away and gave us information of it, which led Gen. Butler to determine to attack it. There were several Secessionists that came down to Hampton for the purpose of shooting this negro.

We were to act in conjunction with a regiment from Newport News, and others were to follow us. We and without noise or light, arise, equip himself, and

We were to act in conjunction with a regiment from Newport News, and others were to follow us. We were finslly on the march. No one would have thought that a large body of men were on the move, from the stillness that prevailed. We crossed the river at Hampton, in boats, which delayed somewhat, and then resumed the march. After we had got some five or six miles we were ordered to a halt. I looked through the woods, and saw a bright light; it could not be mistaken, it was a Secession signal; it was in a house, and pointed directly in the line of their camp. Farther on we came in sight of another; soon after we came to a slight halt, and heard a volley of musket-ry, and were ordered on at double-quick time. Our ry, and were ordered on at double-quick time. Our company being on the right, is always ahead of the line—so that I have a chance to see everything. On halting, I found that we had come upon the enemies.

ince—so that I have a chance to see everything. On halting, I found that we had come upon the enemies of the content of the co was a strange sensation we experienced as we scool there, for the first time, in the face of the foe, waiting his approach, and expecting every moment to receive a volley in our closed ranks; but every man was firm. To be sure we appeared a shade paler; but there was but one look—to do or die.

but one look—to do or die.

Now came the sound of a heavy cannon. Our Captain said, "The ball has commenced." Instantaneously another report was heard, and a shell came whizzing through the air. Now they came thick and fast. We were ordered to charge through the wood. On we rushed through the bushes, which were raked by grape and can ister, bombs, and rifled cannon. The companies mixed up into squads, and every man was soon his own officer. It now became so hot that we were obliged to officer. It now became so hot that we were obliged to get behind trees and stumps. Some of the boys—I was among them—crept close to a fence nearest the enemy, on the outskirts of the wood, and took every concentrative to fire and pick off a man. One of our enemy, on the outskirts of the wood, and took every opportunity to fire and pick off a man. One of our boys, after firing four shots at an officer on horseback, succeeded in tumbling him over. The fire was now appaling, and on getting to the woods again, I found our Colonel and Capt. Kipatrick and some of our men, and that a young man belonging to our mess, and the only one hurt in our company, although we were everywhere, was struck through the thigh. I was right by him. Capt. Kipatrick was struck at the same time, and ordered the men to keep covered, and not stay there to be shot down, and to form, but the brush was so thick that it was almost impossible to find our officers or companies.

our officers or companies.

Some few of us rushed out of the wood across the road, headed by Lieut. Duryee and Capt. Kilpatrick, who is one of the most daring officers in the regiment, and charged across a plowed field, with nothing to cover us except a slight tree, here and there and two old sheds. Is a weeveral fall and not get up; we laid down sheds. I sa weeveral fall and not get up; we laid down often to escape the shot. The New-York Troy Regiment charged also, the Colonel of which was mounted and sat his horse at the head of his men, without flinching. We were within 500 feet of the battery and kept up a fire for some little time, but it was madness to stay there long, so we returned to about midway. One of our poor fellows was shot through the chest; three of us carried him a few paces, when he asked to be put down, and wished some water; it was given to him; he desired to be left, it was no time to stay, as he was probably mortally wounded, and the shot were flying thick and fast and our men retreating, so we left him. You can imagine how hot it was, as when we left not an officer was to be seen in the field, except three; we there ore retreated.

three; we there ore retreated.

Gen. Pierce expressed the opinion that the place could not be taken by storm without sacrificing all our

men.

We need plenty of artillery to take batteries with, outside of them. We fear there is no other way, shape r manner.

I could relate a hundred incidents if I had time and

space. We arrived in camp yesterday evening, having marched about forty miles. All the men are stiff and sore. My feet are so tender I can hardly walk. We are free from drill to-day, and permitted to lie in tent this morning as late as we wish. This ovening we shall bury some of our men.

Some men who were in the Mexican and Crimean

war, say that the fire was as beavy as anything they ever saw, and that we should have had a large supply ever saw, and that we should have had a large supply of cavalry to attack such a place with. The hardest post was held by the regulars, and they de-serve great credit and glory for holding their position in the road during the raking fire. Capt. Kilpatrick's Company also deserve great credit for their ekirmish-ing services. Three of them were killed. I hear this morning, whether true or not I cannot say, that our Chaplain hoisted a white flag for the purpose

of getting all our killed, but that the Secessionis hoisted a black one, as an indication of " no quarter for us; their actions seemed to say so at any this is true, I pity them. Other troops, with have gone out, and I expect that the battery will be ours in a short time. God bless us all and prosper our cause.

Xours, affectionately.

A. D. LETTER FROM A ZOUAVE.

CAMP HAMILTON, June 11, 1861. DEAR BROTHER: We have had our first battle. We engaged the enemy at 10 o'clock yesterday morning and fought for two hours and twenty minutes. Old soldiers say it was the hardest battle ever fought in the same length of time. Our boys, and, in fact all the men on our side, went in without flinching, and stood

men on our side, went in without finching, and stood their ground nobly so long as they were allowed to do so. The Federal forces numbered twenty-five hundred men, including the Vermont, Troy, New-York boys, and the "red devils."

We cannot tell the number opposed to us, but I should think there were 8,000 or 10,000 men, with 20 heavy gans, some of which were rifled, beside several shell gans. They held the strongest position in the country, there being but one road leading to it. In order to reach them, we had to march at night up through an open field, which was entirely commanded by their caunon, and we succeeded in getting within 100 yards of their intrenchments.

A blazing fire from their gans was kept up continually during our progress, but fortunately did us but little damage. I think they had twenty guns at least in full play, shooting forth a blaze of fire and shot continuously. Their shot were nimed at our heads, passing about four feet above the ground; but we marched a full half mile in face of them without losing a man. We were all perfectly cool and undaunted, and every time we saw the flash of their gans we all dropped flat upon the ground. That is all that saved us from a fearful loss of life.

We had three small guns, commanded by Lieut. Grahla and they were most skiffally handled. A

ful loss of life.

We had three small guns, commanded by Lieut.

Greble, and they were most skifffully handled. A
stream of water which lay between us and the enemy
was all that prevented us from a hand to hand fight
with bayonets. That was just what we wanted and
would have had in fifteen minutes more if we had been
allowed to preceed. Our boys and a few of the Verallowed to proceed. Our boys and a few of the Ver-mont boys made a charge on the battery, and when withing a few rods of them the enemy left their gues

withing a few rods of them the enemy left their gues and commenced to run. The guns were almost within our grasp when we came upon the stream which we could not cross, and were obliged to fall back.

The rebels then returned to their guns, and again opened fire upon us. After this we prepared to charge upon the big battery at the bridge, commanding the road, when Gen. Pierce sent his Aid to us, and ordered us off the field, saying that we had more than done our duty, and must return to camp. He being the officer in command we were forced to obey, although there was much grumbling at the order. On our retreat, which was made in perfect order, we met some heavy guns and reënforcements of men, sent from the fort to our relief.

Our intention was to return to the attack on the fol-Our intention was to return to the attack on the following morning, if Gen. Butler would let us, and carry the battery at all hazards, and we could have done it easily, with the additional guns sent us. On our retreat we captured two of the enemy, a captain and a private, both well armed, and the first mounted on a good horse. We have them now in camp living on park and molasses. The Captain says there were ten thousand men at the batteries, but most of our folks think he exaggmented. think he exaggerated.

We had a hard time of it indeed, marching all day

We had a bard time of it indeed, marching all day and all night, except while we were fighting, with nothing to eat. We are getting rested now, and will be all right in the morning. Our loss is five killed and seventeen wounded. How many of the enemy were killed it is impossible to state, but I think it will count up at least fifty, and perhaps twice that number. I saw a shell go through their ranks, sweeping down a fall squad of men.

The enemy use rifles and climb trees to fire at us; that's just where I like to find them, for you know I have had considerable experience in shooting squirrels. I wish I had time to give you a full account of our doings, but I have not. My friend who stood alongside of me was shot through the body; he was considered dangerously wounded, but is better to-day, and we hope he will yet recover. Give my love to all the folks and write to me often. Good bye and God bless you. Years,

LETTER FROM A MARTYR.

The following is the last letter written by the gallant George H. Tienour of Company A, 5th New-York Regiment, who was shot through the breast by a rifled cannon ball at the battle of Great

We add thereto the letter of a comrade, giving an ecount of the death of poor Tiebout:

CAMP BUTLER, FORTRESS MORROE, June 9, 1861.

KIND FRIENDS: I hope you will excuse my tardiness in not writing before, as I have had but very little time to epare. Between drilling and scouting, our time is prenty much taken up. I have been quite well so far. Soon after we landed, I had a bilious attack, which have about forty-eight hours. I have been on two scouting expeditions, but saw very little of the enemy, and none under arms. On one of our tramps after the rebels, we got nothing but a good soaking—first by a rainstorm, and then by a sonse in a creek, which we had to swim to get across, the bridge having been burned. We did it in true Zouave style. We have gay times here, "catching" oysters, clams, and strawberries. Blackberries are almost ripe. We have had several messes of peas, new potatoes, beets, &c. and flowers, no end to them. We are short of wood at present, for we have burned up nearly all the fences, out-houses, &c., around us. Yesterday, I went with a party of fifteen to a wheat-field about a mile distant, and shouldered three rails apiece, and marched to camp. We had no sooner arrived in camp, when the long roll began to beat an alarm. We soon dropped our rails for the musket, and were in line ready to march to battle in a few minutes, but it turned out to time to spare. Between drilling and scouting, our march to battle in a few minutes, but it turned out t

be a farce.

A number of the Troy regiment, who were in Hampton, got drank. They went in the private houses, breating furniture, destroying pictures, localing gausses, &c., and, in short, kicking up a general row, and end-ing in a fight among themselves, in which pistols were used. Col. Carr's picket behaved rather bad. As soon as the alarm was given, they ran, paying no attention to the commands of the officers; not even firing a shot at the supposed enemy, but made the best of their way

toward camp.

This morning Col. Duryee went through the entire regiment to find all the sailors, or those who could pull an oar. It is reported that we are to move soon—we have the control of the contr hink on Yorktown. Part go by water, and part by and, so as to form a junction and surround the 'bridge-burners," and take them by surprise.

I see by the papers that there are quite a number of falso reports about the food. So far, we have had plenty to eat; our food consisting of pilot-bread, salt beef, pork, beans, rice, potatoes, fresh boef, baker's bread (fresh three times a week), and cof-

er's bread (fresh three times a week), and coffee—with sugar in it. We have two teams to carry our supplies, and, in short, I think we are well provided for. There is one thing, we have good officers, and they look out for their men, to see that they are as comfortable as circumstances will permit. We had divine services to-day: preaching this morning and prayer-meeting this afternoon. They were very well attended. Our regiment is called "the redlegged devils," and "the terror of the evil-doers." I think I have written quite a long letter for me, and no doubt you are getting tired of this scrawl. Remember me to all the kind friends and tell them to writte. Write soon, and believe me to be, as ever, your most obedient, G. H. TIEBOUT, Company A, 5th Regiment.

CAMP HAMILTON, June 10, 1861.

FRIEND SIDNEY: I would sooner drag a ball and

FRIEND SIDNEY: I would sooner drag a ball and a chain for a mouth, than to send this bad news to you. Before this will have reached you, you will read the account of our attacking a battery, and the pluck our hoys showed in the fight. Our regiment got their orders about 7 o'clock hat evening to attack a battery about fifteen miles from our camp. As bad luck would have it, there was about seventy of us left behind to guard the camp, while the rest of the regiment were

way. But, now comes the painful part of my story. As our regiment was advancing to charge on the battery, they opened their fire on us, and killed some of our boys. Among the killed was poor George Tiebout. He was shot through the heart by a cannister ball as law as advancing on to the above. he was advancing on to the charge. The man that stood next to him, and heard his death-cry, said he stood next to him, and heard his death-cry, said he died like a man and a soldier, as he was. He was a favorite with his captain, the latter eaying that he would send his body to New-York, but that he was afraid it would be decomposed before it got there. After the engagement, the killed and wounded were brought back to camp in boats, landing opposite to the Colonel's honse. The house that he occupies is one that was deserted by a Secssionist. I was detailed, together with some of the guard, to carry the wounded and dead to the hospital. We had to puss through the Colonel's house to get there. As we were carrying Colonel's house to get there. As we were carrying the body of poor George through the Colonel hap-pened to see him, and at the sight he shed tears.

You must excuse my writing, as I am writing on a shoe-box, by the light of a lantern. I have been on guard forty-eight hours, and I am staying on twenty-four boars longer, as our boys are all fagged out. If it be necessary we will remain on guard twenty-four hours after that. Poor George was the first martyr of our regiment, but he shall and will be avenged. Ac-cept this from one who will fight for the Union. ROBERT B. ZELFOR, Fortress Montee, Co. F, 5th Regl., N. Y.

Pettress Mource, Co. F., 4th Regt., N. Y.
P. S.—Since writing the above, our chaplain, who
was among the missing, has returned. It appears that
he was along with the detail for carrying the wounded
and dying, when a party of Secessionists came upon
them, and, aithough they bada flag of truce with them,
they were fired upon by the Rebels. Our chaplain escaped by concealing himself in the woods. No more
at present, as my relief will be called in a few minutes

LIEUT. GREBLE'S GALLANT CONDUCT AT GREAT BETHEL-DETAILS OF THE ACTION .- The Philadela phia Inquirer has certain details of the part borne by

BETHEL—DETAILS OF THE ACTION.—The Philadels phia Inquirer has certain details of the part borne by Lieut. Greble in the Great Bethel affair. It is printed verbatim from the rough notes of a friend of Lieut. Greble, who kindly furnished them for the purpose:

Assoon as the confusion arising from the mistake (the cross firing) was over, Gen. Pierce ordered the troope to advance. No scouts were thrown out, nor were troops aware of the vicinity of the enemy's batteries until they came within their fire. Lieut. Greble was ordered to unlimber his gun. He advanced, firing his gun alternately, until he came within two hendred yards of the masked battery of the rebels.

Soon after the firing commenced, he was left alone with his original command of eleven men, in an open road, the volunteers having retreated before the telling fire of the rifled cannon.

He worked his guns until he had silenced all those of the enemy, except one rifled cannon.

The Zouaves made a demonstration, and only desired permission to storm the fort, but no general officer was seen from the commencement of the action, and 1,500 were kept lying on the ground for an hour and forty minutes, waiting for a command.

Lieut. Greble stood the brunt of the action for two hours; he was begged by several officers to retreat, but he refused. Lieut. Butler asked him at least to take the same care of himself that the rest did, and dodge. He replied, "I never dodge, and when I hear the note of the bugle calling a retreat I shall retreat, and not before." The enemy made a sortie. Lieut. Grebble said to Capt. Bartlett, who was standing alongside of him, "Now, Charley, I have something to fire at, just see how I will make them scamper." He immediately leaded with grape and fired, when the enemy at once retreated behind their intrenchment.

Seeing himself left entirely alone, with five men at his own gun, he turned to Corporal Peoples, and said, "all he could do would be useless—limber up the gun and take it away." At this moment, a shot struck him on the left temp

would on parade.

The enemy did not come out again until the Federali troops had been withdrawn a half hour.

Lieut. Greble did not spike his gun, but kept it charged in preparing to withdraw his command. The sergeant spiked it after the lieutenant was killed.

sergeant spiked it after the lieutenant was killed.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIER KILLED AT GREAT, BETHEL.—It is definitely ascertained that a nong those killed in the unfortanate attack on Great Bethel was Francis L. Souther of Quincy. He was a member of the Hancock Light Guard, Col. Packard. Mr. Souther was an estimable young man, 25 years of age, and leaves a wife and two children. When he was on his way, a gentleman of this city asked him if he had everything by way of outif that he needed. He said, "Everything except a Bible," which want was at once supplied.

[Boston Journal. supplied.

THE LATE LIEUT. GREBLE.

At a meeting of the officers of the army, at Fort Monroe, Va., on the 11th of June, the following resolutions were adopted relative to the lamented death of John T. Greble, late a First Lieutenant of the Second Regiment of U. S. Artillery, who was killed in battle at County

of U. S. Artillery, who was killed in battle at County Creek, near that post, on the 10th inst.:

Resolved. That the heroic death of this gallant officer fills all with admiration and regret. Standing at his piece, in the open road, in front of the enemy's battery, till shot down, he served in with the greatest coolness and most undannted courage.

Resolved, That while depioring his untimely end, and feeling that his loss to his country is great, and to his family and friends irreparable, still a death so glorious can but tend to lighten the burden of grief to all.

Resolved. That as a wark of respect to the memory of the design of the country is the standard of the country is the standard of the country of the design.

burden of grief to all.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the officers of the army, stationed at this post, wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be furnished his family.

Resolved, That these proceedings be furnished the New-York and Philadelphia papers for publication.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

HEADQUARTERS 6TH REGIMENT, N. Y. S. Troops, ? Annapolis, June 14, 1861.

During the past week the labors of the 6th Regiment. N. Y., Col. Pinckney, and the 13th Regiment of Brooklyn, Col. Smith, have been increased tenfold, and there seems no chance of either being relieved much before the expiration of their term of enlisment. A soldier's life is much like the weather-labor and rest-days of sunshine and of storm. We can take no thought for the morrow, and but little do we care what the morrow may bring forth, so long as it brings with it some change. Day may succeed day in digging intrench-ments or throwing up embankments, yet while in the midst of this glorious work, which we may compare to a sky o'creast with dull and heavy clouds which maketh the heart sick and the mind gloomy, orders may maketh the heart sick and the mind gloomy, orders may suddenly come to cease operations and prepare for march. The sun bursts through the clouds and all is again bright. On Saturday afternoon last, while in the midst of defenses, orders came to hold ourselves in readiness to march, and on the following day, a bright and beautiful Sabbath, three companies of the 18th Regiment, and detachments of artillerists from the 6th Regiment, left this port on the propellers Sophia and Planet.

The expedition was commanded in person by Col.:

Planet.
The expedition was commanded in person by Col. Smith, assisted by Captains Sullivan and Stone of his line, and Surgeon Chase, of his staff, and Surgeon McDermott, Chaplain Hardenbrook, Quarter-Master McDermott, Chaplain Hardenbrook, Quarter-Master Hammill of Col. Pinckney's staff. The expedition, after one of two unimportant stoppages, landed at Mile-River Ferry, whence the troops proceeded three miles on the "double-quick," to the pretty and thriving village of Easton. Here the soldiers ransacked an armory, and seized about twelve hundred muskets, six fleid-pieces, and a large quantity of grape, canister and shrapnel shot, and cartridge. Many of the muskets were useless, having lain in the armory since the Waz of 1812 and the days of the Revolution. Nearly all had flint locks. In a few old swords, scattered here and there, we could almost recognize our grands father's plow-shares. The officials grumbled not a little, and gave expression to oaths, more classical than elegant, upon being informed that the seizure was authorized by Governor Hicks. Had it been any other day the inhabitants would doubtless have turned upon us, but it is fair to presume that they fain would have violated the sanctity of the Sabbath, and yet it might have been that they did not care about attacking 350 men armed to the teeth.

The arresers was completely cleared, and under the and Assistant Oparter-Master Ha

inted the sanctity of the Sabbath, and yet it might have been that they did not care about attacking 300 men armed to the teeth.

The armory was completely cleared, and under the direction of the Colonel, everything was placed in carts, which, for the time, were drafted into the service. Under the orders of Col. Smith, Chaplain Hardenbrook, with two files of men from Capt. Stone's company, searched the Union Hotel, in which it was reported arms were concealed. None of any account were found. In one of the upper rooms, occupied by a gentleman belonging to a Union company, an American flag of silk was discovered. This was quickly displayed from the windows, and was greeted with tremendous cheers by the soldiery. From Easton, on the following day, the expedition went to St. Michael's (a strong Union town), where the troops were paraded, and thence homeward. A sad accident operated on the route, private Meisel being killed almost instantly by the discharge of his own musket, which he was carelessly handling. The arms thus esized were locked up in the fort at the garrison.

On Tuesday, Company C, Capt. Dodge, Company F, Capt. Stone, 13th Regiment, with 12 artillerists and a 5-poander howitzer, in charge of Lieut. Eichberg, set off on another expedition on the propeller Sopha, the force being commanded by Major Morgan. A sail of 2 hours brought the troops to Corsica, at Spencer's Landing, whence they marched in double-quick, under a broiling sun, to Centreville, a town 3 miles distant. Under the orders of Governor Hicks, a demand was made for the State arms, but the inhabitants gave erasive answers in regard thereto, so that no satisfaction could be obtained. After searching about the amory, was found, and the doors burst open, the keys failing to be forthcoming. Here forty muskets, a quantity of cartridges, several hundred bars of lead, and thousands cartridges, several hundred bars of lead, and thousands cartridges, several hundred bars of lead, and thousands cartridges, several hundred bars of lead, and thousands

was found, and the doors burst open, the keys railing to be forthcoming. Here forty muskets, a quantity of cartridges, several hundred bars of lead, and thousands of new buillets were seized and removed to the bost. A thorough search of the village resulted in the inding of forty new Minié rifles in a pea-patch, and four kegs of powder. Night overtaking the troops, before everything could be got to the boat, a halt was ordered at the landing. Pickets were thrown out on either side of the river, and several times during the night they were fired at. Pursuit was given, but the enemy escaped.

On Wednesday the expedition made Queenstown On Wednesday the expedition made Queenstowa, where they learned that there were two companies, one the Union Volunteers and the other States Rights Guard (Secessionists). No interference was made with the Union men, but the most thorough search was made for the muskets of the Rebels. Private house, barns, gardens, and numerous other places were examined, but only twenty muskets could be found. These were concealed in a barn beneath two loads of hay, which the boys quickly pitched off. As the troops were about leaving the village a man named Smith, standing upon the tavern steps, gave three cheers for "Jeff. Davis." At the instance of Major Morgan, ha was arrested, when he openly avowed Secondary. Smith, standing the cheers for "Jeff. Davis." At the instance of Mechanism of the Morgan he was arrested, when he openly avowed cession sentiments, and declared his intention of a company of the Robel flag. He was marched to bout, followed by his father, mother, and sister, each whom wept bitterly, and besought the command.